Rate of telephone services

†2980. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rates of different telephone services in Russia, America, Pakistan, Sri Lanka etc. are lesser than in India;

(b) if so, the average per-minute rates of mobile as well as basic telephone services in the above countries; and

(c) the rates of mobile as well as basic telephone services in India during the first few months of 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Comparison of national telecom tariffs with other countries is possible in a single-operator and single-tariff regime. In the multi-operator regime available in different countries, it is not possible to compare the basic and mobile telephone tariffs available in India with those of other countries as a large number of tariff packages are on offer by different operators. Even individual operators offer different tariff packages. Comparison is also difficult because of the varying exchange rates, differences in purchasing power and different teledensities of different countries.

(c) (i) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has announced its forbearance in respect of cellular mobile tariffs, and service providers are permitted to offer alternative tariff plans with various combinations of pulse rates, airtime rates and rental according to the usage pattern of subscribers and the market situation. There is a stipultion to operators to offer a Reference Tariff Package (RTP), a standard, which has to be available to customers at all times. In addition, they can offer variations on that. The tariff reported to TRAI by cellular service providers in the Reference Tariff Package (RTP) is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(ii) The Standard Tariff Plan declared by TRAI for basic telephone services in India is given in enclosed Statement-II.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

Tariff reported to TRAI by Cellular service providers in Reference to Tariff Package (As on Ist October, 2002)

Circle	Operator	Activation/ Installation	Security Deposit	Monthly Rental	Pulse Rate	I/C Charge Per minute Peak	I/C Charge Per minute off-peak	O/G per Minute Peak	O/G Per Minute Off-peak
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A.P.	Bharti Mobile	1200	2000	500	30 sec	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
A.P.	Hutch Essar	500	1000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40
A.P.	Idea Cellular	1200	1000	400	30 sec	4.20	4.10	4.20	4.10
A.P.	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Gujarat	Fascel	1200	3000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40
Gujarat	Idea Cellular	1200	3000	400	30 sec	4.20	4.10	4.20	4.10
Guajrat	Bharti Mobile	600	1000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40
Gujarat	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Karnataka	Bharti Mobile	1200	2000	899	30 sec	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Karnataka	Spice Comm.	499	1000	299	30 sec		3.00	3.00	3.00
Karnataka	Hutch Essar	1200	2000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40
Karnataka	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
MH	Bharti Cellular	600	1000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.00	4.50	4.00
MH	BPL Mobile	1200	1000	400	30 sec	3.20	3.10	3.20	3.10
MH	Idea Cellular	1200	1000	400	30 sec	3.20	3.10	3.20	3.10

MH	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
TN	Airtel Ltd.	799	1200	500	30 sec	2.00	0.80	2.00	0.80
TN	Bharti Cellular	982	1000	299	30 sec	2.00	1.90	2.00	1.90
TN	BPL Mobile	1200	1000	400	30 sec	3.00	2.00	3.00	2.00
TN	BSNL	1500	1000	375	30 sec	0.50	0.50	1.20	1.20
Haryana	Bharti Cellular	999	1000	249	30 sec	2.60	2.60	2.60	2.60
Haryana	Escotel Mobile	525	1000	249	30 sec	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Haryana	Aircel Digilink	630	1000	250	30 sec	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Haryana	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Kerala	BPL Mobile	1000	1000	400	30 sec	4.00	3.90	4.00	3.90
Kerala	Escotel Mobile	525	1000	349	30 sec	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Kerala	Hutch Essar	1200	2000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40
Kerala	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
M.P.	Bharti Cellular	1200	1000	450	30 sec	4.50	4.00	4.50	4.00
M.P.	Idea Cellular			400	30 sec	2.10	2.05	2.10	2.05
M.P.	Reliance Infocom	600	1000	400	30 sec	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.00
M.P.	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Punjab	Bharti Mobile	762.5	1200	249	30 sec	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
Punjab	Spice Comm.	999	1200	299	30 sec	2.99	2.99	2.99	2.99
Punjab	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Rajasthan	Hexacom India	750	1000	225	30 sec	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70
Rajasthan	Aircel Digilink	750	1000	175	30 sec	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rajasthan	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
U.P. (E)	Koshika	1200	2000	299	30 sec	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
U.P. (E)	Aircel Digilink	1260	1000	299	30 sec	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30
U.P. (E)	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
U.P. (W)	Bharti Cellular	500	1000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.00	4.50	4.00
U.P. (W)	Escotel Mobile	525	1000	249	30 sec	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
U.P. (W)	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
WB	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
WB	Reliance Infocom	1200	3000	400	30 sec	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.00
Assam	Reliance Infocom	1200	3000	400	30 sec	1.75	1.50	1.75	1.50
A and N	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Bihar	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Bihar	Reliance Infocom	1200	3000	400	30 sec	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.00
H.P.	Bharti Telenet	750	1000	249	30 sec	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
H.P.	*Reliance Infocom*	*1200*	*1000*	*400*	30 sec	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.00
H.P.	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
N.E.	Bharti Cellular	600	1000	500	30 sec	4.50	4.40	4.50	4.40
N.E.	Reliance Infocom	1200	1000	400	30 sec	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.00
Orissa	BSNL	200	1000	225	30 sec	1.20	1.20	2.40	2.40
Orissa	Reliance Infocom	1200	3000	400	30 sec	3.50	3.00	3.50	3.00
Chennai	Bharti Mobinet	1200	1500	249	30 sec	2.60	0.50	2.60	0.50
Chennai	Hutch Essar	1200	*2000*	475	30 sec	*4.00*	*3.60*	*4.00*	*3.60*

Chennai	RPG Cellular	1200	1500	475	30 sec	4.00	3.60	4.00	3.60
Delhi	Hutch Essar	799	1000	295	30 sec	1.98	1.98	1.98	1.98
Delhi	Bharti Cellular	799	1000	245	30 sec	2.40	0.50	2.40	0.50
Delhi	Idea Cellular	1200	1500	400	30 sec	4.20	4.10	4.20	4.10
Delhi	MTNL	735	1000	250	30 sec	1.40	1.40	1.80	1. 80
Kolkata	Bharti Mobinet	1200	1500	599	30 sec	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Kolkata	BSNL	500	1000	300	30 sec	1.60	1.60	1.20	0.00
Kolkata	Hutch Telecom	1200	1500	475	30 sec	4.00	3.80	4.00	3.80
Mumbai	Bharti Cellular	Nil	1000	475	30 sec	4.00	3.00	4.00	3.00
Mumbai	MTNL	210	1000	250	30 sec	1.40	1.40	1.80	1.80
Mumbai	BPL Mobile	238.1	1000	475	30 sec	4.00	1.50	4.00	1.50
Mumbai	Hutchison Max	—	1500	475	30 sec	4.00	1.50	4.00	1.50

Statement II

Existing Tariff-STP

Details	ExistingTariff-STP Rent (in Rs. Per month)
RURAL	
Exchange Capacity (No. of lines)	
Upto 999	70
1000-29999	120
30000-99999	180
1 lakh and above	250
URBAN	
Exchange Capacity (No. of lines)	
Upto 999	120
1000-29999	120
30000-99999	180
1 lakh and above	250
Call Charges	
RURAL	
Free Calls	75 mcu
76-500 mcu	@Rs. 0.80
> 500 mcu	@ Rs. 1.20
URBAN	
Free Calls	60 mcu
61-500 mcu	@ Rs. 1.00
> 500 mcu	@ Rs. 1.20
Pulse Rate (Local call)	180 seconds